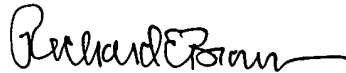


### REMARKS

In this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-12 are being amended and new claim 13 is being added. The specification is being amended to correspond with the amended claims. Support for all amendments is found in the specification as originally filed. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



Richard E. Brown  
Registration No. 47,453

600 13<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3096  
202.756.8000 REB:lg  
Facsimile: 202.756.8087  
**Date: October 26, 2004**